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Chief, Economic Research, ORR

4 August 1958

THRU : Chief, Industrial Division, ORR  
Acting Chief, Guided Missiles Branch, D/I

Gaps in Information Requirements

REF : Memorandum from Ch/E to All Division and Branch Chiefs,  
dated 24 July 1958.

1. Unlike most branches in the ERA, which have a relatively large body of information available and few major gaps, I/GM is still confronted with critical collection problems and is devoting a substantial portion of its effort to expanding and guiding collection programs. Very little is yet known about the production and deployment of guided missiles in the Bloc, and such information is extremely difficult to acquire. In addition to normal collection activities, such as briefings and debriefings of attaches and participation in the [redacted] etc.,

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this branch is currently engaged in a series of other collection activities on the guided missile problem. These include the full-time assignment of a senior analyst to the DD/P Guided Missiles Task Force; [redacted] to guide and assist the [redacted] from the USSR; formal and informal briefings, in conjunction with OSI, of DD/P, CO and OGR collection components, including all DD/P personnel assigned abroad; and the preparation of special detailed guidance materials for collectors (Project Numbers 30.2044 and 37.2386).

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2. The kinds of data needed by this branch are detailed, for the Soviet ICBM Program, in the publication entitled "Draft Collection Planning Aid on the Soviet ICBM Program" (CIA/RR MP-213, 4 April 1958). This document is a real statement of our gaps in information for this one program, and a document nearly as broad and large could be produced were we to outline our gaps in knowledge on each missile system. As this is obviously impracticable, we plan to prepare a broad general statement of the major substantive areas of interest to the branch, which should serve mainly to impress the collector with the magnitude of the collection problem.


3. The branch proposes to submit its gaps in information requirements for the USSR by 31 January 1959 and to complete requirements for the remainder of the Bloc by 1 June 1959.

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SUBJECT: Gaps in Information Requirements

It is estimated that about 100 man-hours will be required.

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